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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ A tie line adapter for use ~~with communicating a signal from a first communication system and to a second communication system, said first communication system having a tie line with a first characteristic and said second communication system having a tie line with a second characteristic, said tie line adapter having comprising:~~

an input point for receiving said signal from a first tie line of said first communication system;

an output point connected to a second tie line of said second communication system;

a first controller for controlling said first characteristic in communication with said input point for adjusting said signal to have an adjusted voltage characteristic substantially matching a tie line voltage characteristic of said second tie line, and for outputting onto said second tie line at said output point said signal having said adjusted voltage characteristic; and [[,]]

a second controller for controlling selectively adjusting an impedance at said output point to one of a plurality of pre-configured impedance values, such that said impedance of said output point is substantially matched with a said second tie line impedance characteristic of said second tie line.

~~, wherein said first characteristic and said second characteristic are adjusted to substantially match each other to allow communication between said first communication system and second communication system.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The line adapter of claim 28 [[1]], wherein said line adapter provides bi-directional communication between said first communication system and second communication system ~~is bi-directional~~.

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3. (Currently Amended) The line adapter of claim 28 [[1]], wherein said line adapter provides uni-directional communication between said first communication system and second communication system is uni-directional.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating a signal from ~~controlling a plurality of characteristics associated with~~ a first tie line and to a second tie line ~~to allow communication between a pair of devices~~, said method comprising the steps of:

~~associating said characteristics with input and output parameters of each of said tie lines~~
receiving said signal from said first tie line; -and

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adjusting a signal voltage characteristic of said signal to substantially match a tie line voltage characteristic of said second tie line for transmission of said signal on said input parameter of said first tie line and adjusting said output parameters of the second tie line; such that there is a substantial match between said characteristics of each of said tie line to facilitate efficient power transfer between said devices, said step of adjusting including the further steps of:

selectively adjusting an impedance at a connection to said second tie line to be choosing a value of at least one of a plurality of pre-configured impedance values such that said impedance at said connection is substantially matched to a second tie line impedance characteristic of said second tie line; and

transmitting said signal with said signal to said second tie line.

~~parameters of said first tie line characteristics to cause said value of said at least one of a plurality of parameter to substantially match a value of said at least one of a plurality of parameters of said second tie line characteristics; and~~

~~selectively choosing a value of at least one of a plurality of parameters of said second tie line characteristics to cause said value of said at least one of a plurality of parameter to substantially match a value of said at least one of a plurality of parameters of said first tie line characteristics.~~

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) The line adapter of claim 1, wherein said first controller comprise a voltage divider for said adjusting said signal to have said adjusted voltage characteristic.

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20. (New) The line adapter of claim 19, wherein said voltage divider comprise a set of selectable resistive elements.
22. (New) The line adapter of claim 20, wherein each resistive element of said set of selectable resistive elements has a different resistance.
23. (New) The line adapter of claim 19, wherein said voltage divider comprise a continuously variable resistor.
24. (New) The line adapter of claim 19, wherein each of said plurality of pre-configured impedance values is provided by a different resistive element.
25. (New) The line adapter of claim 24, further comprising:
a digital signal processor in communication with said input point for further adjusting said signal.
26. (New) The line adapter of claim 25, wherein said further adjusting said signal includes echo canceling.
27. (New) The line adapter of claim 26, wherein said further adjusting said signal includes audio filtering.
28. (New) The line adapter of claim 27, wherein said input point include a third controller for adjusting said signal to have an input voltage characteristic within a suitable range for said digital signal processor.
29. (New) The line adapter of claims 2 or 3, wherein each of said first communication system and said second communication system is an intercom system.

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30. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said step of adjusting a signal voltage characteristic of said signal include matching of said signal voltage characteristic to one of a plurality of pre-configured voltage levels.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein said matching of said signal voltage characteristic to one of a plurality of pre-configured voltage levels is performed by a voltage divider having a set of selectable resistive elements.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein each resistive element of said set of selectable resistive elements has a different resistance.

33. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein said matching of said signal voltage characteristic to one of a plurality of pre-configured voltage levels is performed by a continuously variable resistor.

34. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein each of said plurality of pre-configured impedance values is provided by a different resistive element.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein prior to said step of adjusting the signal voltage characteristic of said signal, audio processing is performed upon said signal by a digital signal processor.

36. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein prior to said step of performing audio processing, said signal is adjusted to have an input voltage characteristic suitable for processing by said digital signal processor.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein each of said first tie line and said second tie line is associated with an intercom system.

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